



GEOTECHNICAL JAN 12 2004

## North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dexter R. Matthews, Director

Division of Waste Management

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
William G. Ross Jr., Secretary

January 8, 2004

Mr. Gregory A. Smith  
Geotechnical Unit – GeoEnvironmental Section  
NC Department of Transportation  
1 South Wilmington Street  
PO Box 25201  
Raleigh, NC 27611-5201

Subject: Alleged historic roadside oil/chemical disposal,  
Clifdale Road, Fayetteville, Cumberland County, NC

Dear Mr. Smith:

The NCDENR Division of Waste Management, Superfund Section recently received a report of possible roadside oil/chemical disposal in western Cumberland County.

On January 6, 2004, I spoke by telephone with Mr. Michael Pate (727-420-9304). Mr. Pate formerly resided at 8270 Clifdale Road, approximately 10 miles west of downtown Fayetteville, NC (see attachments). He reported that at some time during the late 1960s, a tanker truck "with yellow markings" deposited an oily liquid along the north shoulder of Clifdale Road, between the Lake Rim Road intersection and Buhmann Drive. He reported that several gallons of material were applied per linear foot of roadside. The adjacent road surface was paved at that time, with no construction or repair in progress.

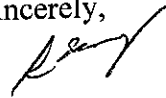
Several of Mr Pate's relatives live(d) on properties along Clifdale Road, including #8270 and #8278, in the interval where disposal allegedly occurred. He remarked that several family members, and unrelated residents along the road, suffered from diabetes. He wondered whether there might be a causal connection, given that the properties were used for farming and/or gardening. I told him that would be impossible to evaluate without considerably more information, including knowledge of what was disposed. Other factors (heredity, lifestyle) would also need to be considered.

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Illegal disposal of hazardous substances (including PCBs) has been historically documented along other roadways in NC. Based on the anecdotal nature of this report, and the elapsed time since alleged disposal, we do not presently intend to pursue further investigation of this matter. However, Mr Pate indicated that this road segment will shortly be widened to 4 or more lanes. Soil contamination, if present, could pose a potential exposure hazard to workers during excavation and construction activities. I am therefore furnishing the DOT with this information, so that appropriate precautions might be observed.

If you have any questions, or if soil contamination is discovered at the above location, please contact me at (919) 733-2801, Ext. 280.

Sincerely,



Stuart F. Parker, Hydrogeologist  
NC Superfund Section

Attachments

Cc: Jim Bateson, NC Superfund Section  
Jennifer Wendel, US EPA Region IV



